

# Identifying and Classifying Subordinate Clauses B

- 17d.** An **adjective clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a noun or a pronoun.
- 17e.** A **noun clause** is a subordinate clause that is used as a noun.
- 17f.** An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.
- 17g.** Part of a clause may be left out when its meaning can be clearly understood from the context of the sentence. Such a clause is called an **elliptical clause**.

**EXAMPLES** This flower, **which was pink**, made me sneeze. [adjective clause]

**What we need** is a sense of humor. [noun clause]

**After the leaves fell**, we saw the nest. [adverb clause]

No one had misjudged him **any more than I**. [elliptical clause]

**EXERCISE** In each of the following sentences, underline the subordinate clause. Then, identify the type of clause by writing one of the following abbreviations above it: *ADJ* for *adjective clause*, *ADV* for *adverb clause*, or *N* for *noun clause*. (Hint: Some sentences contain elliptical clauses.)

**Example 1.** This novel, <sup>*ADJ*</sup> which is the latest best-seller, will be the perfect birthday gift for my mother.

1. If there is an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide present in the atmosphere, plant growth also will increase.
2. Many Americans voted for the New Deal, which comprised the political policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt.
3. Researching the platforms of political candidates helped RaeAnn learn more than her friend.
4. Amy thought that “The Rockpile,” by James Baldwin, was the most interesting short story in our literature book.
5. While he waited for the bus, Len read the latest novel by his favorite author.
6. The governor answered more questions about the proposed budget than they.
7. Please set that stereo where I can reach it.
8. In 1981, Sandra Day O’Connor, who had been an Arizona judge, became the first female Supreme Court justice.
9. Although carefully monitored, the toddler still managed to defoliate the plant.
10. That the Civil War pitted brother against brother is tragic.